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Canada

Oilseeds and Products

Soybean Exporters Launch New IP Standards 2001

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Report Highlights:

According to the Ontario Soybean Growers Association, Canada's food-grade soybean customers will have new confidence in their purchases with the launch of the National Identity Preservation Standard. The standard is a minimum guideline that outlines identity preservation (IP) procedures for all stages of production from growing to processing. The Canadian Grain Commission will be the third party certifying body for the standard. They will conduct both a 'desk audit' of processors' IP procedures manuals, as well as physical audits of their facilities.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
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SOYBEAN EXPORTERS LAUNCH NEW IP STANDARDS

According to a September 28 news release from the Ontario Soybean Growers Association, Canada's food-grade soybean customers will have new confidence in their purchases with the launch of the National Identity Preservation Standard. The standard is a minimum guideline that outlines identity preservation (IP) procedures for all stages of production from growing to processing.

The Canadian soybean industry has been producing food grade soybeans for over 30 years and running IP programs for over 15 years. "Our customers already know we have the infrastructure and skills for sophisticated IP programs," says Michael Loh, Chair of the Canadian Soybean Export Association (CSEA). "This standard will take our industry to the next level." Canadian soybean exports have increased dramatically over the past few years, from 468,000 tonnes in the 1996/97 crop year, to 946,000 tonnes in 1999/2000.

Identity preservation is important for food grade soybean production because Canada's public and private breeding programs have developed superior soybean varieties. These varieties, with traits such as large seed size and elevated proteins and sugars, have helped the Canadian soybean industry capture niche markets overseas. These customers want assurances that they are receiving the highest quality product. "This national standard will help give our food grade soybean customers an additional level of comfort with our ability to segregate individual soybean varieties," says Kim Cooper, Secretary of CSEA.

The Canadian Grain Commission will be the third party certifying body for the standard. They will conduct both a 'desk audit' of processors' IP procedures manuals, as well as physical audits of their facilities. "The Grain Commission is well known overseas, and many of our markets hold government certification in high regard," said Loh.

"IP programs are the way of the future for agricultural production. We see this standard as an evolving process and will be making changes to the standard as new technologies become available," said Wendy Jahn of Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, who led the committee that drafted the standard.

The Canadian Soybean Export Association is a voluntary association of members of the Canadian soybean industry, working as a team to promote the exports of Canadian soybeans and soy products into world markets. The National Identity Preservation Standard was developed by CSEA.

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